

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

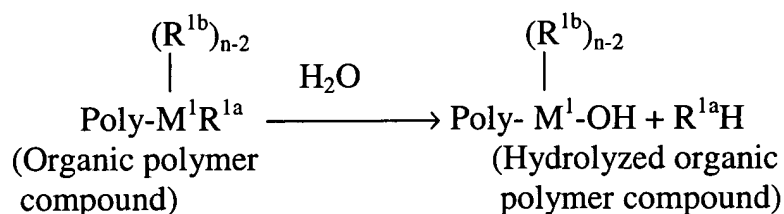
Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 1-16 and 28-37 remain active in the application subsequent to entry of this amendment.

The claims have been amended in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim that which applicants regard as their invention taking into account the examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in items 4 and 5.

Claim 1 is amended to further specify the metallic compound is a metal oxide-containing compound, as in allowable claim 3, or metal-nitride-containing compound in which the metallic compound is bonded to the organic polymer compound through a metal-oxide-containing compound as in allowable claim 4.

The metal-nitride-containing compound as featured in claim 4 and now amended claim 1 is derived from (B)(b) a metal nitride polymer specified in the present process claim 12. The metal-nitride-containing compound is bonded to an organic polymer compound through a metal-oxide-containing compound, as explained below, using polysilazane of the general formula (V) described on page 19 of the specification as the (B)(b) metal nitride polymer.

The organic polymer compound has a hydrolyzable group R^{1a} , and the hydrolyzable group undergoes hydrolysis to form a hydroxyl group.



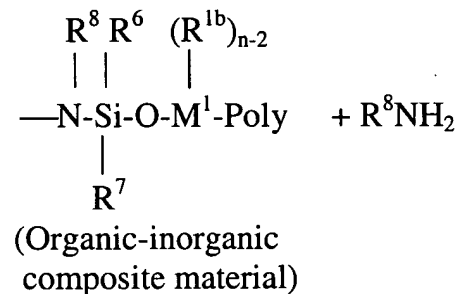
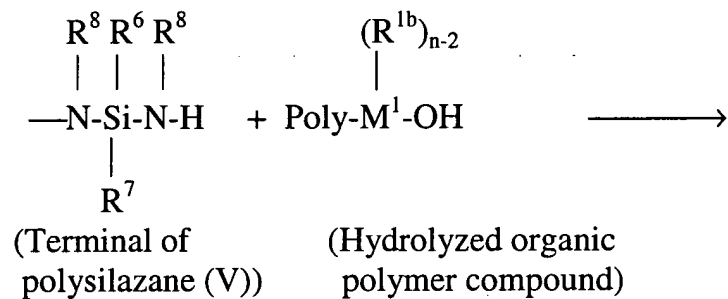
R^{1a} : Hydrolyzable group such as alkoxyl

R^{1b} : Non-hydrolyzable group

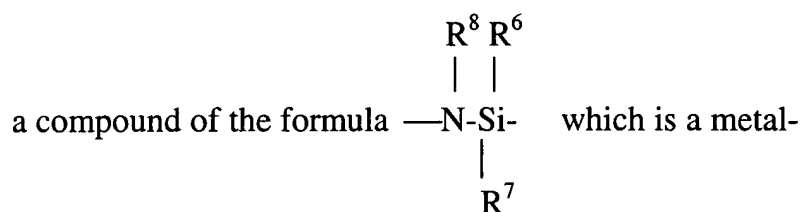
n: Valence of metal atom M^1

Poly: Organic polymer chain

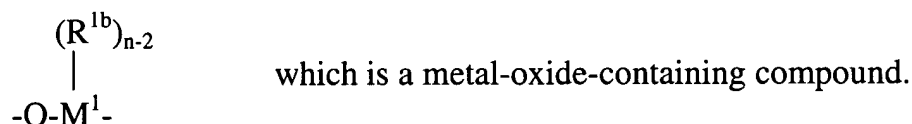
Then, polysilazane (V) and the hydroxyl group of the hydrolyzed organic compound react with each other, to form a chemical bond between the organic compound and the polysilazane, whereby an organic-inorganic composite material is obtained.



In the claimed organic-inorganic composite material,



nitride-containing compound is bonded to a compound of the formula of “-Poly” through
 a compound of the formula



In order to advance prosecution claims 17-27 have been withdrawn, thereby
 resolving the rejection in item 3 of the Official Action.

The examiner has indicated that claims 2-4, 6-10, 12-16, 31 and 34 to be allowable
 if rewritten in independent form. Having regard to the amendments made to claim 1
 which now further specifies the metallic compound as being a metal-oxide-containing
 compound or a metal-nitride-containing compound as featured in claims 3 and 4, it is
 respectfully submitted that all claims including those dependent in claim 1, either directly
 or indirectly, are allowable--this will include article claims 33-37 as well as coated
 substrate claims 28-32 together with the process in related claims.

Entry of this amendment and allowance are solicited.

WATANABE et al.
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Respectfully submitted,

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